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OLST PANAX

## Panax editors briefed on national defense

Forty top editors, correspondents and corporate staffers of Panax Newspapers gathered here this week in Washington, D.C. for a series of high-level briefings on national security and defense issues.

Panax president John P. McGoff, who led the group, said the seminar was designed to give panax editors a heightened awareness of "survival" issues.

"Traditionally," McGoff said, "smaller, community newspapers have been willing to sit on history's sidelines and let the big papers shape what people learn—or don't learn—about the most crucial issues of our time. But that is not how we view our role in Panax, and that is the 'why' of this seminar—to thrust ourselves into the very center of the decision arena and to take from it not only information but also a permanent sense of concern."

The seminar was organized by James R. Whelan, vicepresident and editorial director of Panax, with planning for it coordinated by Joseph J. Gross, vice president-personnel of the company.

Highlights of the series of sessions include a panel of present military capabilities and intentions of the Soviet Union, chaired by former career Ambassador Foy Kohler, whose posts included the ambassadorship in Moscow; briefings by CIA Director Adm. Stansfield Turner and Gen. David C. Jones, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, as well as briefings by Jody Powell at the White House and Hodding Carter III at the State Department;

Addresses by U.S. Senators Jake Garn (R-Utah) and Harry F. Byrd (I-Virginia);

U.S. Rep. Philip M. Crane (R-Illinois), first declared candidate for the presidency in next year's election; Paul Nitze, foremost critic of the SALT treaties; and Prof. Richard Pipes of Harvard's Russian Research Center, who headed the presidential "B Team" last year developing an alternate evaluation to the CIA's of Soviet military strength; and, a dialogue between former Navy Secretary J. William Kiddendorf II; and William Lind, a member of Sen. Gary Hart's staff and an acknowledged expert on U.S. naval affairs.

Panax publishes six daily and 48 weekly, bi- or tri-weekly newspapers in six states. An affiliated company publishes some 20 more in California and Texas.